

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 571

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Bromm, on the Robak amendment.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. I want to support Senator Robak in her effort here. I know that she's been concerned about this for some time and I...I am reminded, in rereading the amendment, if I...and the bill, that this would only apply to constitutional amendments that are directed to be put on the ballot by this body. Is that...could Senator Robak yield to a question?

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Robak, would you yield?

SENATOR ROBAK: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Senator Robak, as I read it, this would only apply to amendments that are put on the ballot by this body.

SENATOR ROBAK: Yes, the constitutional amendments put on the ballot by this body, yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Correct.

SENATOR ROBAK: And I believe, if I'm not mistaken, there are two this year, I think there will be two this year, no more...

SENATOR BROMM: Okay.

SENATOR ROBAK: ...than that, so there will be no expense this year. It would be on next year.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Senator Robak. So, in effect, not that costs should ever be the determining factor on whether we put a constitutional amendment on the ballot, but we're the ones that cause that to happen. It's totally out of the control of the counties, and I think it's appropriate for us to do that. If it's at our...at our direction, it's our decision, I think we can pay for it. And if there are difficulties or discrepancies in what those costs are I'm confident that we have enough expertise in the Secretary of State's Office and in the county clerks' offices that we can sort out those claims so that they